Ps. 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth His handiwork.

A.C. I believe in God the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

Our vacation plans are sending us away to the mountains or to the sea-shore or up and dn the coast or inland for the purpose of hunting or fishing or sight-seeing, or for rest.

Since we get closer to nature during vacation than any other time and since vacation is a time of recreation and rest and an opportunity for reflection, ours is the privelege of becoming better acquainted with the God of Nature- the Creator of heaven and earth. Read the text.

As a fact many Xns intheir worship of the God of Revelation thru Christ ignore the God of Nature entirely, looking upon things earthly and finite as unavoidable evil, but something to shun and get away from if possible.

On the other hand many who have lost their interest in church and creeds and warring sects and who have parted company with the saints who constantly oppose the progress of science and learning, are saved from a frivolous worldly life and from a selfishexistance thru their love of nature.

Read from John Burroughs.

I cannot help but believe that the God of Nature and the God of Christ are one and the same, that what differences seemingly exist between them is due to our lack of undeerstanding, prejudices and misguided conceptions. Jesus himself lived close to nature and drew from her his illustrations for his teachings.

For me every vacation experience brings about a a still further reconciliation between nature and revelation. There is something in nature which calls commandingly to my soul. I feel a kinship to everythin earthly. The mountains with its streams and forests, its canyons and peaks, and its birds and flowers; and the coast with its ocean dashing against rock ledges and breaking upon stretches of glistening sands,

and the great valleys between with their grains and fruits and cattle; and the centers of population in which the manufacturing industries are humming and between which the caravans of commerce and trade ply incessantly- all, all are to me ~~[illegible]~~ blood-relations of mine- I am bone of their bone and flesh of their flesh.

Yes, you say, from the sentimental side that is all very well. But how about the facts of the case? how about the cruelties of nature- her pestilences and diseases on both plant and animal life, her fires and floods and earthquakes and tornadoes and the like?

Picture nature as black as you please and you have painted her only according to your human point of view- a view that is very limited and largely one-sided.

According to the very nature of things there can be no life without pain and death, good and evil mingled together, and the forces of creation show no respect of person, the sun shining upon the evil and the good and the rain descending upon the just and the unjust.

But in spite of all this the constitution of the world provides for our well being and comfort. After every calamity there is recovery and re-building. Nature is full of survivals and revivals.

One big truoble with us is that we think that God made the wind with which to fill our sails, whereas we must make our sails to fit the wind. God did nt make the air for us to breathe but he made us so that we can breathe the air. God did nt put the oil in the ground so we could fill our gas tanks and go joy-riding. But God did put us here on the earth and expects us to adapt ourselves to the conditions as we find them. Nature teaches man to exercise that faith in her God which enables him to say, "Tho He slay me, yet will I trutst him."

One step further- Man's efforts to adapt himself to nature as he finds her has led him to discover how he may improve upon nature. Not only has man learned to use the metals and the natural forces for his own advantage, but he is learning also to control the devastating forces of nature- the floods and the avalanches and the diseases

Nature is the work-shop in which God teaches man his sense of truth and justice, mercy and love.

Man as the highest product of Nature - X the Christian